GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2057
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2002
TROUBLESOME LANDING FOR PM
GADDE RAMAMOHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `a troubled landing for PM` appearing in the Hindu dated June 30, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the factors attributed thereto;

(d) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(e) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(f) the follow-up action taken if any, thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a), (b) and (c): Yes, Sir. At 6.56 p.m. on 28th June, 2002, Indian Airlines flight IC-903 which landed before the PM`sflight, complained about variation of localizer signals while making approach to runway 10 at Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi which is provided with Instrument Landing System (ILS). The ILS was subsequentlychanged over from main to stand-by and interruption of signals for few seconds was reported by IC-658. These twovariations were within tolerable limits of ILS.However, ILS facility was withdrawn at runway 10 for taking ground check readings to reconfirm the normal operations of the facility. Due to heavy air traffic at Palam, the ground check took some time and on completion of ground check, the facility was restored. No international Airlines had revised their schedule due to non-availability of ILS atrunway 10 and there was no delay in arrival and departure of any flight. The alternate instrument procedures exist for landing of an aircraft in case the ILS is not available. Inthis case, the PM`s aircraft was vectored by radar for DVOR/DME approach on runway 10. The aircraft was given due priority and landed without any delay.

(d), (e) and (f): The incident was inquired into. The finding was that the ILS facility was withdrawn due to certain reports received from the pilots about the variation of the localizer signals, though this variation was within the specified limits of the ILS. Action has been initiated against the erring officials for unjustified withdrawal of the ILS facility.